

Remarks

Further and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks.

Thus, in consideration of the prior art rejections set forth by the Examiner under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), claim 1 has been canceled, and each of claims 3, 4 and 8 (not subject to the prior art rejection) has been rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the claims from which they depend. Thus, claim 3 has been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1; claim 4 has been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1; and claim 8 has been rewritten to incorporate the subject matter of both claims 1 and 2.

Claim 2 has been amended to depend from claim 4, since claim 1 has been canceled. For the same reason, claim 5 has been amended to depend from claim 4.

Claim 6 has been canceled since it is dependent on canceled claim 1; and therefore claim 7 has been amended to depend on claim 14.

Claim 9 has been canceled since it is a duplicate of amended claim 2.

Claim 13 has been canceled since it is a duplicate of amended claim 5.

In view of these amendments, Applicants submit that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 5-7, 11, 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shin Etsu Polymer Co., Ltd. in view of Obuchi et al. has been rendered moot. That is, the only independent claims remaining in the application after entry of the foregoing amendments will be claims 3, 4 and 8, none of which is subject to this rejection.

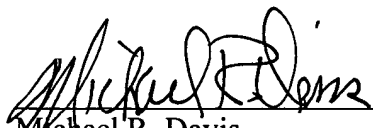
In response to the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 1-17 as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of Serial No. 10/551,872, claims 1-16 of Serial No. 10/595,375 and claims 1-8 of Serial No. 11/575,823, Applicants are submitting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer, which is effective to overcome the double patenting rejection.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that each of the grounds of rejection set forth by the Examiner has been overcome, and that the application is in condition for allowance. Such allowance is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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April 21, 2008